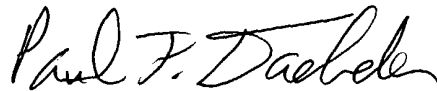


REMARKS

Claims 1-22 are pending in this application. By this Preliminary Amendment, the specification is amended.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Paul F. Daebeler
Registration No. 35,852

JAO:PFD/al

Date: July 18, 2003

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
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Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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